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offices, what can be learned from the fact that in the early days, at least, it was manned by volunteers, and from the fact that the managers and many of its divisional heads of departments were "big business" men.

J. L. GILLIN

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*The Human Costs of the War.* By HOMER FOLKS. With illustrations by Lewis W. Hine. New York: Harper Bros., 1920. Pp. 1-325. \$2.25.

Believing that only an "infinitesimal fraction of reality" concerning the suffering of war-stricken Europe has ever found its way into print, the author assays an adequate appraisal of the damages to humanity which the war brought.

On the basis of a survey made by himself and staff following the armistice, a picture of the people of Serbia, Belgium, France, Italy, and Greece as the war left them is drawn. The results in terms of childhood, home, and health are then effectively summarized, and a chapter on "War versus Welfare" concludes the book.

Written for the general reader, the book gives a vivid impression of the appalling cost of the war in life and suffering. Although mostly estimates, the data are perhaps as accurate as any we shall ever get.

The survey is somewhat defective, however, because confined chiefly to the five lands named, and would have been more valuable had all the belligerent countries been included.

NEWELL L. SIMS

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*British Labor Conditions and Legislation During the War.* Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Division of Economics and History. "Preliminary Studies of the War, No. 14." By M. B. HAMMOND. New York: Oxford University Press, 1919. Pp. v+335. Bound, for \$1.00; paper, gratis from Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

This study of labor conditions and labor legislation in Great Britain during the war gives us in convenient form a great deal of information regarding the changes in trade unionism, unemployment, wages, hours of labor, welfare work, relation of the government to labor, and other labor problems. The author states that it is purposely "a narration rather than an interpretation" but he presents enough of the historical background to make the book intelligible to persons not acquainted

with earlier conditions in England. It is a book of importance because of the significant changes that took place during the war, and also because the interruption of communication with Europe during the war made it impossible for us by the ordinary methods to keep up with the changes in this field of labor problems.

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*Consumers' Co-operation.* By ALBERT SONNICHSEN, New York: The Macmillan Company, 1919. Pp. xix+223. \$1.75.

In this little volume the author has attempted to write a brief history of the co-operative movement explaining in detail the relationship between consumers' co-operation and productive co-operation, farmers' co-operative societies, profit-sharing, labor copartnership, etc. In part two of the book he discusses consumers' co-operation and the labor movement and consumers' co-operation and socialism.

In tracing the early history of co-operation he indicates very clearly his sympathy for consumers' co-operation as against all other forms of co-operation which must be tolerated as a part of the co-operative movement however irrational or inconsistent their programs are. Consumers' co-operation will succeed when the Rochdale principles are followed and when all other factors political, economic, and social are excluded from the program. The above is another of many attempts which have been made to explain why consumers' co-operation has uniformly failed in the United States with the exception of the recent experiments which have not had time to demonstrate whether they will endure or not. However much we may wish to see consumers' co-operative societies succeed, in the light of American experience we cannot accept his enthusiastic conclusion that consumers' co-operative societies will always succeed when established on the Rochdale principles.

In the author's discussion of the Purity Co-operative Bakery of Paterson, N. J., the author states that the Federal Food Control Board fixed the price of bread at a point which enabled this society to make too much money and although the Federal Food authorities were appealed to they would not change their ruling with reference to the price. In the interests of accuracy the price of bread in each state was not fixed by the National Federal Authorities but by the State Federal Authorities and the prices fixed were usually maximum prices. Nearly everywhere chain stores and others sold bread at prices below the maximum fixed by the authorities of the Food Administration.